

WARNING SIGNS

Excessively Jealous
Very Controlling
Very Possessive
Verbally Abusive
Sexually Demanding
Violent Temper
Rapidly Changing Moods
Excessive Alcohol/Drug Use
Abuse of Pets

IMPORTANT NUMBERS (area code 502)

Emergency: 911

Louisville Metro Police: 574-2111

Crimes Against Children: 574-2465

Crimes Against Seniors: 574-2278

Domestic Violence/Sex Crimes & Elder
Abuse: 574-2430

Center For Women & Families: 581-7200

The Domestic Central Intake Center:
595-0855

V.I.N.E. 574-8463
574-2184 (Fax)
1-800-511-1670

County Attorney's Office: 595-2340

Commonwealth Attorney's Office: 574-6336

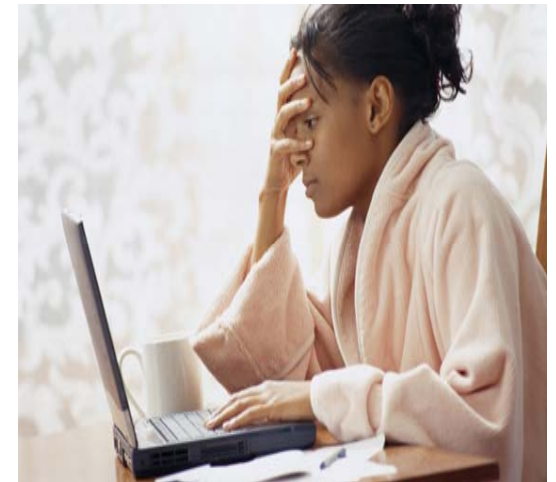
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Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor

26 Members
Metro Council

Domestic Violence and Abuse



Louisville Metro
Office For Women

Urban Government Center
810 Barret Avenue, 2nd Floor
Louisville, KY 40204
(502) 574-5360
(502) 574-6888 Fax

E-mail: ofw@louisvilleky.gov
Website: www.louisvilleky.gov/OFW

Violence and Abuse in Relationships

Violence and abuse in relationships affects persons of every socio-economic, racial, religious, cultural, sexual orientation, and age group. If you suspect you or someone you know is a victim of violence, please seek help.

Domestic Violence or Family Violence

Domestic violence, or family violence, is a societal problem affecting individuals, families and entire communities. It has damaging short-term and long-term effects on adults and children.

“Domestic Violence and Abuse” is defined in Kentucky law (KRS 403.720) as physical injury, serious physical injury, sexual abuse, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical injury, serious physical injury, sexual abuse or assault between family members or members of an unmarried couple.

Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive and abusive behaviors intended to establish power and control over another individual. Women are five to eight times more likely than men to be victimized by an intimate partner.

Examples of Domestic Violence and Abuse

- **Physical Abuse**

Pushing, hitting, kicking, biting, pulling hair, and other physical aggression.

- **Emotional Abuse**

Putting an intimate partner down, name calling, playing “mind games”, portraying the intimate partner as mentally ill or “crazy,” withholding affection, telling their intimate partner they are not loved by anyone else.

- **Sexual Abuse**

Sexual acts against an intimate partner's will, physically attacking sexual parts of the body, treating an intimate partner as a sex object.

- **Using the Children**

Exchanging messages through children, using visitation as a way to harass a partner, undermining the partner's authority in front of children, threatening to hurt children.

- **Using Privilege**

Treating partner as inferior, not involving partner in important decisions, and withholding affection.

- **Isolation**

Controlling where and what partner goes and does and who they talk to and see. Controlling financial resources making partner totally dependent and isolated.

- **Dating Violence**

Physical, emotional/psychological or sexual abuse in a dating relationship. Dating violence involves the same tactics used in domestic violence but occurs between people that are not married, some just live together. Dating violence can be found in all age, racial, socioeconomic, educational, religious groups, as well as in heterosexual and homosexual relationships.

Legal Options for Victims

Emergency Protective Order (EPO).

An EPO is effective until a formal hearing is held within 14 days of the issuance of the EPO. The order may be extended up to 3 years at the time of the hearing. There is no cost to the victim for filing an EPO. It is helpful to keep a **journal**, documenting everything that happens with dates, times, places, and nature of events.

In an EPO, the Judge can order the abuser to:

- Have no contact or communication with victim.
- Remain a specific number of feet away from the victim.
- Refrain from any further abuse.
- Leave the home they share.
- Refrain from disposing of or damaging any property.

At the hearing, the Judge may order:

- temporary child custody to victim,
- child support,
- child visitation,
- and/or counseling.